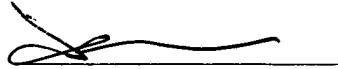


CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. on January 23, 2004.



Jeffery McCuller

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Kenichi SAWADA

Prior Serial No.: 09/484,540

Prior Filing Date: January 18, 2002

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

Prior Examiner: J. Wu

Prior Group Art Unit: 2623

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fee, please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page two of this paper.

Amendments to the claims begin on page three of this paper.

Remarks begin on page four of this paper.